

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

APRIL 6, 2010

Amendment to Item #11:

Combating gang violence, reducing gang memberships and increasing public safety remain a high priority for this Board. It is important to fight this problem in the most cost effective and efficient manner possible.

Before us, we have the Los Angeles County Regional Gang Violence Reduction Initiative (hereafter "INITIATIVE") which, among other things, includes identifying four site coordinators, one for each demonstration site to perform a multitude of tasks, including convening working groups focused on prevention and re-entry as well as working with multi-disciplinary teams to provide enhanced services to probationers transitioning from camp to community and their families. To identify four high-performing staff members from various County agencies poses quantitative and qualitative concerns because backfilling not only has a fiscal impact but also presumes that similarly high-performing staff are available to assume the additional workload.

Given that probationers are the target population, the responsibilities of the site coordinators and the services rendered are part of, or germane to, the core mission of the Probation Department. The Probation Department is in the process of evaluating and improving its operations, including the camp-to-community transition efforts, it is prudent for the site coordinators to be selected from within the Probation Department.

Identifying the site coordinators from within the Probation Department will have quantitative and qualitative benefits. The practical effect will be as follows:

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- 1) The fiscal concerns of backfilling will be eliminated by utilizing existing Probation staff for what is already part of their core mission;
- 2) Utilizing Probation staff will dramatically reduce the required training and learning curve necessary for the site coordinators to work with probationers and their families;
- 3) Programmatic and operational changes and improvements can be implemented more easily; and,
- 4) As an added benefit, these site coordinators can serve as a valuable asset in the future training and institutionalizing of the effective components of the program through the lessons learned.

The INITIATIVE also includes expenses associated with programs in the parks which do not translate to measurable outcomes and are fiscally imprudent given the current fiscal climate. These expenses include such things as: excursions, food/water, prizes, games, crafts, decorations, awards, popcorn machines and hot dog warmers. These types of costs should be covered through private funds from the local businesses in each of the sites and not at taxpayer's expense, especially when staffing curtailments are on-going.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Interim Chief Probation Officer to select the four site coordinators from existing staff within the Probation Department to avoid the need to backfill and to eliminate those parks program costs that are associated with such things as excursions, food/water, prizes, games, crafts, decorations, awards, popcorn machines and hot dog warmers.

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